

COCKERMOUTH
Urban District Council



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

CHARLES A. MASON, M.B., Ch.B., D. P. H.

FOR THE YEAR 1944.

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Sanitary Inspector.

"West Cumberland Times,"
Cockermouth

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Cockermouth Urban District Council

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cockermouth Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1944, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received July, 1945. Under instructions, curtailment remains as in the preceding war years.

During the year under review war-time duties and responsibilities were again carried out loyally by members of the Council and its officials and many other workers.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 2,062.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid 1944)
(see page 5) 4,894

Number of inhabited houses (end 1944) according to Rate
Books, 1,597

Rateable Value £24,544

Sum represented by Penny Rate (approx.) £96.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	66	36	30	} Birth Rate (R.G.) 15.9
	Illegitimate	12	5	7	
Still Births	...	6	2	4	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 71.4.					

		Total	M	F.	
Deaths	...	51	26	25	Crude Death Rate (R.G.) 10.4 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

Maternal Mortality:—

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

Infantile Mortality:—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 3

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	51 (Approx).
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	63 (Approx).
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7

Cockermouth Urban District.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

for the year 1944.

The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 2,062.

RAINFALL.

Records,* taken at South Lodge, Cockermouth, 242 feet above sea level:—

1944	inches	Wettest days and amount		
January	... 5.47	12th	.88 in.	
February	... 2.05	1st	.55	Snow on 26th
March56	11th	.09	„ 31st
April	... 2.48	19th	1.04	
May	... 2.59	24th	.56	
June	... 4.65	3rd	1.51	
July	... 2.33	2nd	.52	
August	... 4.45	27th	1.65	
September	... 4.64	5th	.92	
October	... 4.65	11th	.78	
November	... 8.16	4th	1.90	and 27th .94
December	... 4.33	1st	.83	and 14th .83
Total	46.65			

Barometer—M.S.L.

Highest—Dec. 23rd 30.80 in.

Lowest—Jan. 24th 28.60

*Kindly given by John Armstrong, Esq., South Lodge. His average for seven years ending and including 1944 was 42.23 inches.

POPULATION.

For 1944 the figure given for the resident population of the district by the Registrar General is 4,594, on which the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based. N.B.—Figures relating to non-civilians are excluded.

(The figure for 1943 was 5,012).

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Coekermouth Urban District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief was 81, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 60 of the population, as compared with 1 in 84 in 1943, 1 in 77 in 1942, 1 in 57 in 1941, 1 in 36 in 1940, 1 in 26 in 1939, and 1 in 23 in 1938.

9 persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of 1 in 544 of the population.—1943—11 persons, and 1 in 456 of population.

Comparisons with 1943 :—

	Out-door Relief.		Indoor Relief.
Cockermouth U.D.	1944	81	9
	1943	60	11

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.—There were 78 Live Births (41 male and 37 females) registered as belonging to the district; of these 12 (5 males and 7 females) were illegitimate.

The net live birth rate was accordingly 15.9 per 1000 of the population, compared with 17.1 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Birth Rates, 1944—Cumberland	...	19.7
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	19.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	20.3
England and Wales	...	17.6
Cockermouth Rural District	...	18.3
Cockermouth Urban District		15.9

The percentage of illegitimate live births was 15.3 as compared with 5.8 in 1943.

Still Births.—There were 6 still births registered so that the still birth rate per 1000 of the population was 1.22, as compared with .19 for 1943. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.50).

The still birth rate per 1000 total live and still births was 71.4, as compared with 11.4 for 1943.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Coekermouth was 51. This gives a crude death rate of 10.4 per 1000 of the population as compared with 12.1 for the previous year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1944

Causes of Death.			Males	Females
All Causes			26	25
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever		0	0
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever		0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever		0	0
4.	Whooping-cough		0	0
5.	Diphtheria		0	0
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		0	0
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis		0	0
8.	Syphilitic diseases		0	1
9.	Influenza		1	1
10.	Measles.		0	0
11.	Ac: Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis		0	0
12.	Ac: inf: encephalitis		0	0
13.	Cancer of b: cav: and oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)		1	1
14.	" stomach and duodenum		0	0
15.	" breast		0	1
16.	" all other sites		2	2
17.	Diabetes		0	1
18.	Intra-cran. vasc: lesions		1	4
19.	Heart Dis:		6	5
20.	Other Dis: of circulatory system		1	1
21.	Bronchitis		0	2
22.	Pneumonia (all forms)		2	1
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases		1	0
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum		2	0
25.	Diarrhœa under 2 years		0	0
26.	Appendicitis		0	0
27.	Other Digestive Diseases		1	1
28.	Nephritis		0	0
29.	Puerperal and post-abort: sepsis		0	0
30.	Other Maternal Causes		0	0
31.	Premature Birth		0	1
32.	Congen: malform: birth inj: infant dis.		0	0
33.	Suicide		1	0
34.	Road Traffic acc:		0	0
35.	Other violent causes		1	0
36.	All other causes		6	3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total ...			2	2
Legitimate			2	2
Illegitimate			—	—
			M	F
LIVE BIRTHS	}	Total	41	37
		Legitimate	36	30
		Illegitimate	5	7
<hr/>				
STILL BIRTHS	}	Total	2	4
		Legitimate	2	4
		Illegitimate	—	—

POPULATION (for Births and Deaths), 1944—R.G.—(see p 5) 4,894

An adjusting or Area Comparability Factor has not been provided by the Registrar General for 1944, so the adjusted death rate cannot be given.

Comparisons of crude death rates are shewn below :—

Death Rates, 1944—Cumberland	Crude
... ..	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.5
Urban Districts of Cumberland	11.9
England and Wales	11.6
Cockermouth Rural District	11.2
Cockermouth Urban District	10.4

For Causes of death during the year see table on page 7

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 4 deaths (all legitimate) among Infants under one year of age giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 51.2 per 1000 births as compared with 23.2 for 1943.

No death occurring among illegitimate infants, the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate for 1944, was therefore nil per 1000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of 60.6 per 1000 legitimate births. These latter rates were respectively nil and 23.4 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1944 :—

Cumberland	...	49
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	53
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	43
England and Wales	...	46
Cockermouth Rural District		66
Cockermouth Urban District		51

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age :—

Cause of Death	under 1 wk.	1—2 weeks	Total under 4 wks	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—9 mths.	9—12 mths.	Total under 1 yr.
Broncho-pneumonia (one of triplets)				1				1
Premature Birth		1	1					1
Premature Birth with Acute Gastritis				1				1
Haemorrhagic Diathesis of Infancy	1		1					1

SENILE DEATH RATE.

32 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 62.7 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 49.1 for 1943.

11 (5m 6f)	occurred among persons between the ages of 65 and 70 years
7 (4m 3f)	" " 70 and 75 years
7 (3m 4f)	" " 75 and 80 years
3 (2m. 1f)	" " 80 and 85 years
4 (2m 2f)	" " 85 and 90 years

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were 2 inquests (both held within the district).

A Coroner's certificate was received in respect of one case where post-mortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

Three deaths were uncertified.

Violence.—The death rate due to Violence (All Forms) was 0.40 per 1000 of the population in the Cockermouth Urban District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accident, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1000 of the population:—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Accidents		Other Violence excl'g Road Traffic Acc.		Total Violence	
	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943
Deaths	1	nil	nil	1	1	2	2	3
% of all causes	1.96	nil	nil	1.63	1.96	3.27	3.92	4.91
D.R. per 1000 popln.	.20	nil	nil	.19	.20	.39	.40	.59

The deaths from Violence in 1944 include 1 due to coal gas poisoning (suicide) and 1 of accidental explosion. There was no death from Road Traffic Accident.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 7 cases, as follows:—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females	Years old	
Alimentary	Oesophagus	1	1	76	66
Reproductive	Uterus		1		66
Glandular	Breast		1		74
	Ovary		1		50
Hepatic	Liver	1	1	75	43
Epidermal	Leg	1		82	

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 1.43 per 1000 of the population as compared with 2.19 in 1943.

Approximately out of every 7 deaths of persons in this district 1 was attributed to cancer. (1943—1 in 6).

TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also pages 17 and 18.

There were no deaths due to Tuberculosis:—

	Males.	Female.
Respiratory System	0	0
Non-Pulmonary	0	0

The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate, therefore, was nil per 1000 of the population, as compared with two deaths and a rate of .39 for 1943.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death rate was also nil per 1000 of the population also, as compared with last year's figure of 0.39 (two deaths).

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Part-time Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Wm. Nicholls, M.I.M. and C.E., A.R. San. I., who is also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Mr. James S. Bowman was Clerk in the Surveyor's office until the end of May, when he joined H.M. Forces.

Mr. Kenneth Fawcett was appointed in his place in October.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1944:—

Material		Test applied for—	Result :	
			Pos.	Neg.
Throat or nose swabs	...	Diphtheria	4	10
	...	Haemolytic Streptococci	1	4
		Vincent's Angina		1
Sputum	...	Tuberculosis		4

Other particulars under Provision of Health Services remain as detailed in my 1930 and subsequent reports.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

The amount of Crummock Water used by Cockermouth Urban District during the year under review was 95,844,000 gallons. (This, of course, includes the quantity used for trade purposes).

The consumption of water per head of the population using the water worked out as approximately 52 gallons a day.

There were no extensions of water mains during the year.

The Reservoir on the Moor was cleaned out in March and October.

The Secondary School reservoir was cleaned out in May.

During the year 320 yards of 5in. main was scraped.

There continue to be complaints of water shortage in the higher parts of the town as in the past.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage effluent from the Outfall Works remained satisfactory. Quantities of dried sludge were removed for use by the Council. None was applied for by market gardeners.

Sewer Extensions.—Nil during 1944

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly; collection is bi-weekly.

The Council decided to purchase a new motor refuse collecting vehicle and eventually received delivery towards the end of the year (the licence was taken out in January, 1945). This should prove to be a distinct advantage over the horse drawn vehicular method of removal both hygienically and in saving of time travelling to and from the tip.

In the Goat area night soil is still removed by the Council from a few houses (all but one condemned).

Salvage of Waste Paper.—During the year 51 tons were baled and despatched to Paper Mills (1943—57 tons).

The refuse tip at Tarn Close continues in use with controlled tipping. As the tip has extended the small watercourse running through the area has had to be piped in; a further length was laid this year and the remainder of the course cleaned out.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Sanitary Inspection of the district is undertaken by Mr. W. Nicholls, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor to the Council. His friendly and ever willing co-operation is much appreciated, and I here record my indebtedness to him for his assistance in the making of this report at the end of which will be found his Summary of Work done—in accordance with Article 10 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in Cockermouth Urban District at the end of 1944. 68 persons remained on the register (included in which were 14 relating to bakehouses) and no serious defects were noted by the Sanitary Inspector who made 62 visits in all:

Premises.	Number	Inspec- tions.	Defects Found	Written Notices.	Defects Remedied	Prose- cutions
Factories with mechanical power	19	27	0	0	0	—
Factories without do	49	35	0	0	0	—
Other Premises under Act						
Totals	68	62	0	0	0	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—The firm of Blood Driers whose licence expired on 1st May, 1944, again applied to the Council for a renewal and this was granted for another twelve months.

There is still the Knacker and Fellmonger establishment in Waste Lane and visits of inspection continue to be made to it, as heretofore.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No special action under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, was taken.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector co-operates with officials of the County War Agricultural Executive Committee, who carry out rat disinfestation of the refuse tip, mainly by poison.

Poison is available at the Health Department Offices at the Town Hall free of charge.

There continued a steady demand for rat poison.

Housing.

The Housing shortage continues to be acute.

Condemned houses allowed during the war to become temporarily occupied under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1934, were as follows:—

(a) 3 houses by agricultural workers as in the previous year.

(b) 9 houses by persons whose homes had been destroyed by enemy action—an increase of four over the previous year.

Note.—In addition one house which was occupied without permission in 1943 was still in occupation.

No new houses were built in Cockermouth in 1944.

No houses were reconditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

Post-War Housing.—The Council has long been desirous of a considerable extension of their Windmill Lane Housing Estate, and the remainder of the land previously bought for housing purposes was considered sufficient for at least 80 houses. The number to constitute their First Year's Programme: is 26 houses on the Moor Estate and 184 on the Windmill Lane Estate. The suggested figure for their Second Year's Programme is a further 100 houses on the Windmill Lane Estate.

The houses are to be built by the North-Eastern Housing Association.

Housing Appendix.

STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts | 90 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 120 |

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	52
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	45
2 Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	3
3 Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	0
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.,—Overcrowding:—	
(figure not available, but an increase in overcrowding—legal or moral—remains).	

Owing to shortage of labour and materials, high costs, and various restrictions, the position regarding house repair work remains difficult.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There were 7 registered milksellers whose premises were within the Urban District, including 4 producers and retailers, 2 producer wholesalers, and 1 retail purveyor only. Inspections are made periodically and endeavour is made to get improvements carried out to dairy premises where necessary.

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producers and retailers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 9 of such producers and retailers during 1941.

The following table gives the result of 25 samples of milk retailed in the town and taken by the Sanitary Inspector, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

Of the above 25 samples, 11 were satisfactory and 14 unsatisfactory in relation to dirt contamination, as follows:—

	Satisfactory according to Accredited Standard.	Unsatisfactory according to Accredited Standard.	Total
Samples produced in Urban District	6	3	9
„ „ outside „	5	11	16
	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 25

The 14 unsatisfactory samples comprised:—

- 10 failing the Methylene Blue Reduction test only (4 being borderline cases);
- Nil failing B. Coli test only (i.e. showing B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes out of 3, and
- 4 failing Combined tests.

Where results are unsatisfactory as to cleanliness endeavour is made to secure improvement. On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am indebted to Mr. John Reid, Divisional Inspector of that Authority, for the “Nil” return of particulars of animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, from premises registered in the Cockermouth Urban District during the year 1944:—

Total number of Animals Slaughtered	...	0
Cows in Milk	...	0
Other Cows or Heifers	...	0
Other Bovine	...	0
Types of Disease found at Post-mortem—		
Tuberculosis of Udder		0
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	...	0
Tuberculosis with chronic cough and showing definite clinical signs	...	0

This Council has continued to co-operate with the County Council in the latter's scheme for general milk sampling, including Designated, School, and Ungraded Milk.

The production and retailing of milk under “Special Designation” in the Cockermouth Urban District in 1944 was as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested.—W. Cook, Annfield—Producer and Retailer.
John Cook, Fitz Road—Retailer.

Accredited.—Isaac Cook, Strawberry Howe—Producer and Retailer.

J. Wright, Croft House, Brigham—Producer and Retailer.

J. Christopherson, Sneckyeat—Producer and Retailer.

T. Taylor, Waterloo Farm—Producer (milk retailed by J. Cook).

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter-Houses.—The 2 Private Slaughter-Houses (both registered), and the Council's Public Abattoir have not been used as such since the Ministry of Food on January 14th, 1940, suspended all slaughtering other than in regional abattoirs—the Maryport abattoir serves this district under the scheme.

The Sanitary Inspector informs me that the following was condemned in the town during 1944:—178lbs. tinned meat, 50lbs. dried prunes, 15lbs. cocoa, 14 tins fish, 12 tins beans, 88 tins milk, 7 tins fruit, 8 tins vegetables, 8lbs. jam, all voluntarily surrendered. A considerable quantity of food of various kinds was examined and found unsuitable for sale owing to damage and was returned to the suppliers through trade channels.

Bakehouses.—These are occasionally inspected. There are still 14 altogether, of which 5 are considered domestic in type. No serious defects are reported.

.....

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified among civilians during 1944 in the Cockermouth Urban District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 23. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (*vide post*) the number was 16—the figure for 1943 was 11.

Seven of these were notifications of Tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1944.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases notified 1944 admitted to hospital	Deaths of notified cases
Scarlet Fever	6	3	0
(Ages— Under 5 yrs, 3 ; 5-10 yrs, 2 ; 10-15 yrs, 1)			
Diphtheria	3	2	0
(Ages—5, 6, and 39 years)			
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Measles	7	0	0
(Ages— Under 5 yrs, 1 ; 5-10 yrs, 6)			
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary { Males	4	1 (San.)	0
{ Females	2	1 "	0
Non-Pulmonary { Males	1	1 (Hosp)	1
{ Females	0	0 "	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1944 :

Disease	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever		1			1		1	2				1	— 6
Measles				2						5			— 7
Diphtheria		1			1				1				— 3
Tuberculosis—													
Pulmonary													— 0
Other Forms				1	1								— 2

From notifications received it is deduced that one in every 306 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act and the Tuberculosis Regulations (Measles, Whooping Cough, and Chickenpox excluded). Last year's figures: 1 in 456.

Six cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, again scattered throughout the year. Four of them were removed to Hospital; all six recovered. The case rate per 1000 of the population was therefore, 1.2, and the death rate nil as compared with 1.3 and nil in 1943. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1944) were 2.40 and .00.

There were three Diphtheria notifications, all three cases recovering; so that the case and death rates per 1000 of the population were .61 and nil, as compared with .19 for both in 1943. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1944) were 0.58 and .02. Two of the cases were removed to Hospital. One case—mild in character—is recorded as having had two doses of A.P.T. three years previously.

The campaign of immunisation against Diphtheria was continued as before. By the end of 1944 it was estimated that approximately 83 per cent. of children under 15 years of age had received the two immunising doses of A.P.T. (Alum praecipitated toxoid) as sponsored by the Minister of Health. In splitting up the children immunised under 15 years into two age groups the figures work out as follows:—Under 5 years 70 per cent. and 5 to 15 years 91 per cent.

(NOTE.—Infants under 12 months are not inoculated).

I am grateful again for having had the co-operation of the local Medical Practitioners and Head Teachers, and particularly for that of the County Health Visitor, Miss Lawson, whose help has continued to be invaluable.

There were no notifications of Typhoid (including Paratyphoid Fever), Encephalitis Lethargica, Poliomyelitis, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No notification received. The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate is:—Puerperal Pyrexia nil per 1000 total births (i.e. live and still births), the same as in 1943. The corresponding rate (1944) for England and Wales was 10.34.

There was no Maternal death, the Maternal Mortality Rate therefore was nil per 1000 total (live and still) births as compared with 1 death and a rate of 11.49 for 1943.

Pneumonia.—Although no notifications were received it may be mentioned that 3 deaths from Pneumonia (all forms were registered.

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 6 cases (1 males and 2 females) of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 1 (male) of Other Forms of Tuberculosis were notified.

One (pulmonary male) case was admitted to Sanatorium. One (male, non-pulmonary) case received treatment in hospital.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1944:—

1944		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Age		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65—and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 9.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1944 was as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	7	10	17
Non-pulmonary	2	5	7
All cases	9	15	24

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza was more or less prevalent mainly during the winter months. Two deaths were recorded from this disease, making the Influenza death rate .40 per 1000 of the population as compared with nil in 1943. The rate (1944) for all England and Wales was .12.

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—There were 7 cases of Measles (2 in April, 5 in October), but none of Whooping Cough notified in 1944. No death occurred from either disease. The case rates and death rates were, therefore, per 1000 of the population—Measles 1.43 and nil, and Whooping Cough nil and nil.
(England and Wales)—Measles 4.16 and 0.01, and Whooping Cough 2.49 and 0.03).

SCHOOL CLOSURES.—During 1944 no elementary school in Cockermouth was closed on account of infectious disease.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical
Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article xix. of the
Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

NUISANCES :

Nuisances reported to Council	...	26
Intimatory Notices served after inspection		15
„ Notices complied with	...	15

Detailed Sanitary Work :

Choked Drains, defective I.C.'s and gullies		29
Damp and Defective Roof, etc.	...	16
Additional Water Closets	...	2
Housing Inspections	...	160
Factories Inspections	...	34
Dairies and Cowsheds Inspections	...	12
Visits to Knackery	...	4
Visits re Infectious Diseases (incl. Disinfections)		27

Plans were approved during 1944 for Private Garage, at
Wyndham Row, and alterations to bathroom at 21, South Street.

WM. NICHOLLS,

M.I.M. and C.E., A.R. San. I.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

